

NOT RELEASED  
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# Last of expelled U.N. diplomats expected to leave for home today

By Bill Gertz  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The last members of a group of 25 Soviet U.N. diplomats expelled by the Reagan administration are expected to leave the United States today, Reagan administration officials said yesterday.

"Administration policy toward the request for departure of 25 Soviet U.N. diplomats remains unchanged" as a result of the Iceland summit meeting, said one official.

The official, who declined to be named, would not disclose any details of discussions in Iceland on the 25 diplomats, including the 11 remaining in New York.

The administration, however, has not reversed its Sept. 17 expulsion order against the 25, the official said.

Anita Stockman, a State Department spokesman, had no immediate comment on the expulsion. Soviet U.N. officials could not be reached for comment.

The diplomats were directed to leave the country by Oct. 1 in the first phase of an administration program aimed at counterespionage. The administration wants to reduce the number of Soviet U.N. diplomats from 275 to 170 by 1987.

The expulsion was ordered after the Soviets refused to comply with the administra-

tion's U.N. staff reduction directive issued last March. Officials have said the reduction was ordered to curb Soviet espionage activities under cover of the United Nations.

President Reagan, in a Sept. 28 speech to National Security Agency employees, reaffirmed the administration's commitment to "root out" foreign spies.

"Those around the world who would seek to steal our secrets and technology, subvert our values and institutions and to violate the privacy of our communications must realize this fact: The American people will no longer tolerate this conduct," said Mr. Reagan.

Secretary of State George Shultz agreed to a two-week "grace period" from the Oct. 1 deadline to allow additional time for the 11 remaining Soviets diplomats to clear up "personal matters," said the official.

Mr. Shultz granted the extension as a concession to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in negotiations that led to the release of U.S. journalist Nicholas Daniloff in Moscow, the official said.

"The 'U.N. 11' will be leaving tomorrow [Tuesday]," the official said.

Administration sources yesterday confirmed a report in Sunday's editions of The New York Times that identified nine of the remaining 11 diplomats as KGB intelligence officers.

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